

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A multichannel pipette system for aspirating and/or dispensing fluid into multiple fluid receptacles comprising:

a pipettor having at least one body and two or more plungers;

one or more removable pipette tip arrays, wherein the removable pipette tip arrays mate to the at least one body of the pipettor, and wherein each tip array has more than one tip;

a flexible membrane positioned between the tip arrays and the plungers, the membrane forming a static seal with the tip arrays, wherein the flexible membrane is connected to the one or more removable pipette tip arrays by one or more clamps;

wherein the static seal between the flexible membrane and the tip arrays is formed in part with a sealing agent.

2. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the pipettor is an automated pipettor.

3. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the more than one tips are automatically aligned with the fluid receptacles.

4. (Previously presented) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the pipette tip arrays are configured to dispense fluid into multiple fluid receptacles are within a multiwell plate.

5. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the removable tip arrays comprise four tips or sixteen tips in a square array, the array corresponding to wells in a microplate.

6. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the removable tip arrays comprise 1536, 384, 96, 24, 12, or 6 tips in a rectangular array, the array corresponding to wells in a microplate.

7. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the removable tip arrays comprise 48, 32, 24, 16, 12, or 8 tips in a linear, the array corresponding to wells, rows or columns in a microplate.

8. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 comprising an equal number of bodies, plungers, and tip arrays, with one plunger traveling in each body.

9. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 8 wherein each tip array mates to a body.

10. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the tip arrays each further comprise a flexible membrane, the membrane forming a static seal with the tip array.

11-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the flexible membrane is held by a frame, the frame having a center region, and the flexible membrane spans the center region of the frame.

15. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 1 wherein the tip arrays are formed of plastic, metal or combinations thereof.

16. (Original) The multichannel pipette system of claim 14 wherein each tip array includes a mating feature at its edge for mating with the frame.

17-31. (Canceled)